

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action dated August 23, 2000. Reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the amendment made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-9 are pending in this application of which Claim 1 is the sole independent claim.

In the Office Action, Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,875,102 to Poetsch ("Poetsch").

Poetsch shows a scanning device having an error detection scanning device 8 and a film scanning station 13. The error detection scanning device 8 is encountered by a portion of the film prior to that same portion of the film being encountered by the film scanning station (see, FIG. 5, and the accompanying description in Col. 3, line 68 through Col. 4, line 5). In one embodiment, a "reference pattern" for picture unsteadiness error correction "could also be produced from the normalized measurements of sprocket holes ..." (See, Col. 4, lines 27-29). In FIG. 11, Poetsch shows that sprocket holes may be measured utilizing a laser to provide flying spot scanning by a variably directed output beam of the laser (see, Col. 7, lines 57-61). In all of the embodiments shown, Poetsch utilizes an obliquely aligned photo sensor to detect the sprocket hole.

In sharp contrast thereto, Poetsch does not disclose or suggest (emphasis provided) "wherein the second scanning device is

configured to detect both the beginning and the end of the sprocket holes" as required by Claim 1.

Based on the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claim 1 is patentable over Poetsch, and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. Claims 2-9 depend from Claim 1 and accordingly are allowable for at least this reason.

Applicants have made a diligent and sincere effort to place this application in condition for immediate allowance and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By Gregory L. Thorne
Gregory L. Thorne, Reg. 39,398
Attorney
(914) 333-9665
November 21, 2000

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

It is hereby certified that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to:

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

On November 21, 2000
By Natalie Manzo
Mailing Party